



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Julie D. Saba
Application No. : 10/622,011
Filed : July 16, 2003
For : COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE MODULATION OF
SPHINGOLIPID METABOLISM AND/OR SIGNALING

Examiner : Iqbal Hossain Chowdhury, Ph.D.
Art Unit : 1652
Docket No. : 200116.405C1
Date : March 10, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 11, 2006, please extend the period of time for response one month, to expire on March 11, 2006 (a Saturday). Enclosed is a Petition for an Extension of Time and the requisite fee.

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 11, 2006, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-7, 12-15, 16-19, 20-26, and 27-31, directed to methods for identifying an agent that modulates sphingolipid metabolism comprising altered growth of the mutant yeast strain and a decrease of SPHK1 activity, and invention C, directed to methods utilizing a null mutant of the DPL1, LCB4, and YSR2 genes, for examination at this time.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.